

FROM THE CAPITAL.

President-Elect Cleveland Sensibly Continues Secluded.

HAS TOO MANY LETTERS NOW.

Nine-Tenths of all Communications are

From Office Seekers.

THE AWAITING HOPE DEFERRED

When the Heart Sicken Will be Content With Much Lessened Ambitions--etc.

Special to THE CHRONICLE.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—President-elect Cleveland very sensibly continues to seclude himself from the public in as great degree as possible, but he can not close the mails against his voluntary correspondents. From this time until his inauguration Mr. Cleveland's mail, notwithstanding his recent protest, will probably average at least 1,500 letters daily. That was about the number President Harrison received from immediately after his election, and it jumped to 2,000 per diem after his arrival at the White House. About nine-tenths of all such communications are from office-seekers. The balance conveys, mostly, advice and suggestions, offer congratulations and give warnings, friendly and otherwise. As is customary at such times, people of all kinds in every part of the country are now "taking pen in hand" to address the president-elect by post. Whenever a change of administration occurs a sort of fever for office-seeking becomes epidemic among the people. For months after Mr. Cleveland assumes his high office the time of his private secretary will be chiefly occupied with receiving applications for positions under the government, and the ante-room of the White House will be crowded at all hours with congressmen and others eager to secure plump patronage. The "very hungry and very thirsty" will swarm upon Washington like grasshoppers upon a green vegetable patch. All of them will reach here in high confidence of securing appointments to their liking, and nine-tenths of them will finally go away disappointed after eating out their hearts with waiting and hope deferred.

The great majority of those who do succeed will be obliged to be content with positions much lower in the public service than they had expected to secure. In numerous instances individuals of some local distinction, who had journeyed here with aspirations for posts of high honor and emolument under one administration or another, have been thankful to get situations finally as messengers in the departments. History in this matter repeats itself every time one political party goes out and another comes in. Those who fail, as their money runs low, drift out of the hotels into the boarding-houses, finally falling back on the cheap lodging houses. Last scene of all, which so often ends this sad, eventful history, is the appeal addressed by the disappointed office-seeker to his congressman for a loan to pay his car-fare home. Undoubtedly these place-hunters are mostly people of some importance where they live; but the lever for holding public office attacks them, and they abandon everything else to pursue the delusive phantom. If they capture it, the glamour of the life holds them so that they are never satisfied to abandon it. If they fail, as so many do, they too often become soured misanthropes, brooding constantly over what "might have been."

A Mormon Colony in Mexico. EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 12.—Edward Stevenson and F. Macdonald, Mormon leaders from Utah, will leave here for Mexico with 100 men to establish a Mormon colony on 600 acres of land near Santa Rosalia and 100 miles from Chihuahua city. The land was granted to them by the Mexican government.

A Difference of Opinion. Seattle Telegraph. We think that the Spokane Review is wrong when it says that Seattle is set against the opening of the Columbia river. Everything that will aid in the development of the state can count upon the support of Seattle even though it is to be done elsewhere. All that Seattle asks is something for the general benefit of the nation shall not be opposed merely because it will have to be done at Seattle.

Blaine's Religious Views. WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The Rev. Father Ducey, of New York, came to Washington yesterday, and his presence has revived the rumors concerning Mr. Blaine's religious views. Last night it was the talk at the hotels that the ex-secretary of state is to become a member of the Roman Catholic church through the offices of Father Ducey in a day or two. Father Ducey would not discuss the rumor last night.

Telegraphic Flashes.

It is announced that President Harrison's private secretary Elijah Halford will be appointed as minister resident and consul-general to Portugal, vice George S. Matchler, who resigned on the 1st of November.

The Pittsburg coroner's inquest into the death of Isaac Jury, who was a non-union employe of the Carnegie company at Homestead, who was supposed to have been poisoned by strikers, shows death was the result of alcoholism.

Four masked train robbers attempted to hold up a train on the Chesapeake railway near Huntington, Va., but were driven off by nerry passengers before securing any booty. Some of the robbers were wounded, but they all escaped in the darkness.

San Francisco is doing away with horse cars. During the next year the syndicate which has been formed to build the routes, will build 20 miles of rapid transit lines, 15 miles of this being electric and five miles cable. Material for the entire system has been ordered, and as fast as it arrives it will be put in place.

Six large well stocked buildings were destroyed by fire in Baltimore yesterday. Loss \$1,650,000. The buildings were stocked with 17,202 bales of cotton, belonging to leading cotton firms of Baltimore, and valued at about \$850,000, in addition to the losses. How the conflagration started is not yet learned, although the origin is attributed to spontaneous combustion.

Jay Gould's Starting Point. East Oregonian. It is a popular belief that the late Jay Gould owed the position he attained in life entirely to his own talents and exertions, which transformed him from a penniless boy into one of the world's greatest financiers. S. P. and W. H. Gould, of this city, are distant relatives of the dead millionaire, and during a conversation concerning him the latter stated that Jay Gould received a fair start on the road to fortune by a lucky windfall. W. H. Gould's father, S. A. Gould, who resides at New Orleans, received in 1869, a parchment letter from a firm of attorneys informing him that there were \$300,000 deposited in the bank of England awaiting claims of the oldest heirs of John C. Gould, of Scotland, who was a wealthy ship-builder on the Dundee river. Later, in the same year, Mr. Gould received another letter, stating that the money fell to the family of Jay Gould. Not long afterwards the king of speculators sprang into prominence, and it is thought owed his sudden rise in the financial world to the fortune bequeathed him. John C. Gould was his great grandfather. The Gould family of which the Pendletonians mentioned are a part, descended from a brother of the Dundee ship-builder.

Futures in Sheep. Chas. Cunningham, who is in a position to know what he is talking about, informs the East Oregonian that all the last spring lambs in Idaho have been contracted for at \$2.50 per head, to be delivered next spring, and sheep which will then be two-year-old are under contract for delivery at \$3 per head. These figures do not indicate any depression in the sheep-growing industry. In Utah county the condition of affairs is the same. Grown sheep are worth from \$3.50 upwards, and lambs command a proportionately high price.

Germany For Gold. BERLIN, Dec. 12.—In the reichstag, Count Meirbach, conservative, asked the government to assist the bimetalists in the Brussels monetary conference Chancellor Caprivi replied that the German delegates were instructed not to give assent to any proposals that restricted Germany's right to decide what should constitute her own currency, and to declare Germany is content with her present system and would not change it. Caprivi concluded his remarks by declaring Germany would continue to adhere to the gold standard.

German People Excited. BERLIN, Dec. 12.—The town is full of rumors. One is to the effect that the imperial message dissolving the reichstag will be read today, another that the army bill will be put into effect without consulting the reichstag. Public feeling in the empire is on the verge of an explosion, particularly if the kaiser insists on retaining Caprivi. It will be remembered the kaiser formerly expressed a determination to keep Bismarck in spite of anything that might happen.

The Evidence is Conclusive. PITTSBURG, Dec. 12.—The offices of the Amalgamated association say that the story that the organization countenanced a plot to poison non-union men at work in the mill company is prosperous. Attorneys for the Carnegies, however, say the chain of evidence against the leaders is growing stronger daily, and promises to be so complete that none of them will be able to escape.

A Forger and His History. ROME, Ga., Dec. 12.—Lord Walter S. Beresford, the English forger, who has occupied his time in the Floyd county jail in writing a history of his career, has completed the book and closed a contract for its publication. He expects to appeal his case to the United States supreme court if he can raise money enough.

Republican Senators in Caucus. WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Republican senators held an hour caucus this morning relative to the states in which there are doubtful senatorial contests, but reached no conclusion. The caucus will be renewed this afternoon.

THE PANAMA SCANDAL.

It is Yet The Leading Topic in Commercial Circles in Paris.

BARON REINACH WAS POISONED.

Le Figaro Urges the Government to

Place Herz on The Stand.

WHAT CAUSED HERTZ' DEPARTURE

Prominent Political Personages Heretofore Unnamed Compromised in the Scandal.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The Panama canal scandal continues to engross public attention. All the papers publish long articles on the scandal, the tenor of which depends entirely upon political points of view of the journals. Le Figaro urges the government to get Hertz, one of the partners in the banking house of which the late Baron Reinach was the head, to speak regarding the connection of that house with the affairs of the Panama Canal Company, the inference being that Hertz will be able to explain many points about which doubts now exist.

In the course of its article, Le Figaro recalls how, thanks to Clemenceau and Sarrien, Hertz was enabled to bond the Electric force transmission company with a capital of 12,500,000 francs, and that, through this and other transactions in which he was assisted by connection with men holding ministerial positions, he accumulated a considerable fortune. The paper further says Baron Reinach spent the greater part of the last hours of his life with Hertz.

Only a few minutes after leaving Hertz, Reinach returned to his residence and that night died under circumstances that led the government to make an autopsy to determine whether he died from natural causes or committed suicide. On the same night Reinach died Hertz started for London, and Le Figaro expresses a strong desire to have the public informed as to what caused his sudden departure. Le Temps says the first examination of the remains of Baron Reinach proves he died from poison. The house is unsettled owing to rumors that prominent political personages, heretofore unnamed, are compromised in the Panama canal scandal.

Still Has Hope. BRUSSELS, Dec. 12.—To a correspondent Senator Jones said: "I have not given up hope that some plan may be evolved from the discussion now in progress, and that before the end of the coming week. If not, the conference may adjourn for the holidays. In the latter event the governments now opposed to us may see the danger in which they stand, and come to an arrangement. They will discover that they cannot maintain the present system, but may want time to find a way out of the difficulty. I will speak on Tuesday. My speech will be academic, for I have been asked to discuss the question thoroughly."

A Washington dispatch says: "About 40 democratic members of the next congress have entered into a more or less definite agreement. Their purpose is to act as a brake on tariff legislation. In their own language, they are going to 'stand together to keep the party from acting the fool on the tariff question.'" Most of the members are from the Atlantic seaboard, but several are from the Ohio valley districts. If their great prototype were alive, these forty protectionists would be classed as "Randall democrats." They are entirely confident that they will be able to hold down the wild and woolly Westerners, and the members from the cotton districts, to a very moderate revision of the tariff without a material effect upon the protected industries."

The Blundering Ball 4. The people of Massachusetts are supposed to be as intelligent as those of any commonwealth in the country. Nevertheless they made more mistakes than the citizens of any other state in the use of the Australian ballot at the last election. The official count shows that 19,186 blanks were cast for governor, 32,005 for lieutenant-governor, 39,067 for treasurer, and 40,894 for secretary of state. The total vote of the state was 400,120, so that the percentage of defective ballots was very large. The blanks were caused by the voters checking against individual names, instead of in the party circle at the head of the tickets. Just which party suffered most severely as the result of this blundering is not positively known.

A STUDY OF EARS.

THE HUMAN EAR AND THE TALE IT TELLS TO THE OBSERVER.

An interesting Dissertation on an Appendix of the Head That is Too Often Neglected as a Feature in the Definition of Character. Did any one ever go to any of the theaters when the house was crowded and amuse himself or herself studying the ears of the audience? It will pay the observing man to do so. He will realize then that there are ears and ears, those which indicate character in its several degrees: individuality, firmness, resolution, kindness and its antithesis, and the various other attributes which go to make up the widely varying specimens of humanity.

A study of ears may not be entirely satisfactory. One is apt to find upon somebody else with whom he is not despatchedly in love a pair of auricular appendages which remind him forcibly of those he sees when facing his mirror. It is rather an odd thing that the majority of men and women however seldom see their own ears. They can do so readily with the aid of a quick silvered glass, but the vanity of human nature seems to stop at the features of the face. A woman will spend half an hour admiring her own pretty red lips and keep the young man with theater tickets in his pocket waiting an hour while she adjusts her eyebrows and gets just the right complexion on her cheeks, but the ears are left to take care of themselves. A wet rag is pushed nastily through their intricacies and they have had their share of attention. There are exceptions, of course. The woman who knows that her ears are lovely and bound to attract admiration will play with them affectionately and take care that her hair is arranged so that no fraction of them is hidden from view. Then there are people whose ears stick out like the new flap of a jackass, an elongated malformation. They can't help seeing their ears, neither can any one else.

A REMARKABLE PAIR OF EARS. It was at Hooley's the other night that a study was made of the eccentricity of the ear. The auditorium was crowded and the jokes of the comedian emptied into a thousand tympanic cavities. What cavities some of them were too. There was a man with a hole in his ear which looked as though it might have been one of the nine mouths of the Mississippi. One would have thought a steamer could pass through it without sticking, and as for the flies and earwigs, a large colony of them could have habited there all winter and hardly have been felt. Because the cavity was large it must not be supposed that the owner of the ear was proportionately so, to the contrary this cavity was the biggest part of him. He was a little fellow the ideal of a non-patched mutton. The loudly developed channel of sound suggested the probability of his being accustomed to bear frequent commands to "go and light the fire" or "get up and give the baby paregoric." He seemed to be happy this time for he was alone and there were no such discordant sounds to offend his hearing.

Near him was a man who had a decided inclination to obesity. He was tall too, and could have easily tipped the beam at 300 pounds. Now, one would have supposed that his auricular members would have been developed equally with the rest of his anatomy. One would have been disappointed, however. They were almost midgets alongside of those belonging to the little man, and looked as though they might have received a shock in childhood from which they had never recovered. But in spite of their diminutiveness there was a great deal of don't-careness about them—an independence as to what they heard and what they did not hear. A wife might have yelled fire and baby and paregoric at these ears all night and they would never have heard it, they were not constructed after that fashion.

A BEAUTIFUL PAIR OF EARS. Alongside of him sat a woman who was evidently the wife. Her ears were long irregular and stood out from the side of her head like the dust guards in a sleeping car. They were ears which, it could be plainly seen, were accustomed to being on the alert for some familiar voice. There was a startled appearance about them which indicated that this voice was in the habit of greeting them with a command or a reprimand more than anything else. Evidently but few words of affection or endearment had passed through them.

In the row of seats just behind this queerly interesting trio was a perfect symphony of ears. They were not the ears of men out of women—pretty young women with elaborately rich dresses and aristocratic faces. Indeed, these were patriarchal ears, and the blue blood could almost be seen coursing through them.

The girl who sat next to the end had the prettiest ears of all. They were beautiful. Moderately small, regularly formed sloping off into an oval at the top and thin almost to transparency. There was a pinky tinge about them which was ample apology for the poets who sing about coral ears. They stood out from the head at almost an exact angle. They were perfect in every particular but they were not responsive ears. They were accustomed to hearing sweet nothings said and simply listening for more. They said plainly that their owner was one wrapped up in the contemplation of her own charms, and expected all others to be equally so, and to make it known in words. Looking at those ears one would have described her as follows: Deep blue eyes, nose inclined to Roman, red lips white teeth, clear complexion, little animation in the face. The description would have been entirely correct.—Chicago Tribune.

London streets are now paved with a new compound of granulated cork and gutta serena pressed into blocks and laid like wood paving. The especial advantage of the material is its elasticity.

LIKE A FAIRY TALE.

The Panama Canal Muddle Growing Very Much Worse Rapidly.

THE LEADING TOPIC IN FRANCE.

Rouvier, Minister of Finance, Has

Tendered His Resignation.

CAUSED BY A LETTER PUBLISHED.

Newspapers Detail The Death of Baron Reinach—Political Situation Critical.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Paris dispatches quote articles from Le Figaro, and other papers, on Herz which read like a fairy tale. Much of it is true and much no doubt is fancy. Nearly all was conclusions strained and twisted. Freycinet intends testifying to the honesty and ability of Herz, who has been a friend of his many years. Senator Girault has tabled the bill to give the widest jurisdiction to the Panama investigating committee to collect evidence, and proposing a refunding to the company of all sums illegitimately expended in Paris. Clemenceau, editor of La Justice, distinctly denied that Herz used the columns of La Justice to push his new enterprise.

He admits Baron Reinach and Rouvier successively visited him on the night before Reinach's death, but he was out and did not see them. Rouvier had explained to him on the lobby of the chamber that Reinach was being driven mad by the campaign being organized by the papers against him, and, as it was for him a question of life or death, he wished Rouvier would accompany him to see Herz and induce him to use his influence to stop the attacks. Accordingly Rouvier with the baron, and accompanied by Clemenceau, visited Herz together. Herz declared he could not render the service required.

Le Gaulois publishes what purports to be an account of the last hours of Baron Reinach. The story confirms in many particulars what has already been stated and credited to rumor. The paper says that after the final interview between Reinach, Rouvier and Herz, the baron found all hope of escaping the consequence of his connection with the Panama affair gone. He returned home at midnight, wrote several letters, destroyed a number of documents, and then swallowed poison. The paper tells the story with great particulars of detail. The general opinion is that Reinach was, with Aktou, one of the "useful" men of the Panama scheme. It is known he handled large sums for the company, and the Panama investigating committee are now trying to learn to whom the money was paid and for what services.

The revelation made by Clemenceau as to the visit paid him by Reinach and Rouvier, on the eve of Reinach's death, caused consternation among supporters of the government. It is said that another ministerial crisis is impending, and that another political upheaval may be expected at any time. Clemenceau's letter has greatly compromised Rouvier in the Panama affair, and the outcome is hard to predict at present. Rouvier will be summoned to explain his connection with the affair to the investigating committee. Herz will also be summoned, but it is doubtful if he will appear. The political situation is extremely critical.

Dallas Woolen Mills. The Dallas Observer of the 8th has this to say of the Dallas woolen mill: "Just about one year ago a stock company was formed here to erect and operate a woolen mill. All went well, (the building and machinery were put up) till within the past few months when bills became due and payable on house and machinery, an additional assessment was levied on the stockholders to meet the demands. But it was not decreed that all would pay; hence attachments were placed on the plant by the sheriff, and the property has been ordered sold at sheriff's sale by the court." It is a misfortune to Dallas that its people do not come to the rescue and relieve the concern from its embarrassments, after it has been inaugurated, and bids fair to be a successful undertaking in the country. Oregon can't have too many manufacturing establishments, and to let any, after once in operation, fail, indicates that there is something lacking in the spirit of enterprise.

Cause for Congratulation. Antelope Herald. He congratulates the many settlers in this interior country upon being able to prove up on their land at Antelope. Heretofore many a man with limited means was deterred from taking up land in this part of the country, because the immense costs of proving up stared him in the face like a full moon. They can now file and prove up on land at not more than one-third the former expense.

Farmers Institute at Dufur.

There is to be a Farmers Institute held at Dufur on the 29th of the present month, which bids fair to be of unusual interest. The subjects that are to be discussed are those that are of vital importance to the farmers especially so, in that of the sowing of spring wheat fall wheat. The programme as arranged will be read with interest.

THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 1:30 P. M.

MUSIC.

Prayer Address of Welcome, W. H. Dufur, Response, J. McMillan, MUSIC.

Benefits to be Derived from Farmers' Institutes, A. S. Roberts. Necessity of Making Our Homes Attractive, Mrs. A. Hatheway, MUSIC.

THURSDAY, DEC. 29, P. M.

MUSIC.

The Agricultural College and its Purposes, Pres. John M. Bloss. Farmers' Organizations as Political Educators, P. P. Underwood, MUSIC.

Lantern views thrown upon a screen and explained by some member of the College Faculty.

FRIDAY, DEC. 30, 9:30 7 A. M.

MUSIC.

Should Wheat be Sown in the Spring or in the Fall, E. Moore, MUSIC.

Economy as Applied to the Farm, Prof. H. T. French, MUSIC.

Thistles, J. H. Tront, Adjournment for dinner.

THE DALLAS IMPROVEMENT.

All Right Here, But No New Project Can Come In.

Washington dispatches today inform us that several members of congress have just found out that no new projects for river and harbor improvements can be commenced for at least four years, so far as the Pacific coast is concerned. The project at the dalles will be expected as it does not come within the term of new projects. Where surveys were made this year and found worthy of improvement, it will be found necessary to provide for a plan of improvement under the next river and harbor bill, and an appropriation two years later. It is learned that this arrangement was designed with the full knowledge of the effect it would have upon the improvements, and that it would relieve the river and harbor committee from the pressure that is always brought to bear upon it to provide for new projects, not reported favorably by the engineer.

Upon the subject of the two projects, the boat railway and Seattle canal, Mr. Blanchard, of the house committee of commerce, is reported as saying that "neither of these propositions had any place in the river and harbor bill, and for that reason he was opposed to them in the last session, and made a determined fight to prevent their being incorporated in the river and harbor bill as they might defeat it, jeopardizing all the river and harbor interests in the country. He said that some very eminent engineers, who had made private inquiries as to the route of the boat railway, claimed that it would be impracticable.

"One in particular, who was very anxious to see boat-railway schemes succeed, and whom Mr. Blanchard termed 'a boat-railway man,' said it would be a failure if constructed at the dalles, and the damage to boat railways would be very great. As to the Seattle canal, Mr. Blanchard thinks that it is rather poor policy to force that kind of legislation, when nearly half of the state is opposed to it. He says he believes that if a vote of the two states of Oregon and Washington were taken a majority of the people would be found opposing both the boat railway scheme at the dalles and the Seattle canal."

So far as Mr. Blanchard's remarks apply to the boat railway, he would find himself very greatly mistaken.

Information Wanted. Seattle Telegraph. May we invite the papers of Seattle to inform the public as to what are the prospects of the canal bill at the present session of congress? We mean the Lake Washington canal bill. Have they any information for the citizens on the subject? As the P-I pointed out some time ago, the Great Northern will soon be finished and thousands of men will be looking for employment, and they could receive it on the canal. Is there anything that the people of Seattle can do to help Senator Squire with this bill? We think it is time that the organs gave the public some information on the subject.

Chrysanthemums and Carrots. Review. Chrysanthemums growing in the garden of A. W. Lachapelle, snow-covered but without frost, are a curiosity of the delightful climate of Lake Chelan. The leaves are still green and fresh as in summer on the peach, prune, apricot and pear trees, and Mr. Lachapelle has in his garden Belgian carrots, averaging two feet in length.

To Adopt Penny Postage. LONDON, Dec. 12.—The statement is published that the government has practically decided to adopt penny postage throughout the empire.